Government is facilitating the States of Andhra Pradesh and Orissa to resolve the issue of submergence as per the provisions contained in the GWDT Award.

Implementation of rain water harvesting scheme

3327. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to implement and making rain water harvesting scheme compulsory in farm sector for every land holding farmer in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any assistance would be provided by Government for the purpsose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN-SOZ) (a) No, Sir

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Implementation of irrigation projects in Tamil Nadu

3328. SHRI EM. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Government of Tamil Nadu has requested the Central Government for assistance for implementation of irrigation projects; and

(b) if so, the response of the Central Government thereto and the assistance likely to be released to the State Government for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ): (a) and (b) The Union Government has not received request for assistance for implementing major/medium irrigation project from the Government of Tamil Nadu. However, under the Pilot Scheme "National Project for repair, renovation and restoration of water bodies directly linked to Agriculture", two district project namely Sivgangai and Villupuram were approved in 2004-05 and Central share of Rs. 3.97 crore has been released during 2005-06 to the Government of Tamil Nadu. The balance amount of the Central share will be released to the State Government

based on the utilization certificate furnished by the State Government.

Management of Water Distribution

3329. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a large scale corruption and irregularities in potable water distribution in most cities across the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that poor management of water distribution system is leading to a huge amount of wastage of water;

(c) if so, the details in this regard; and

(d) the details of action taken or proposed to be taken by Government to improve the water distribution across the country?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ): (a) The Ministry of Urban Development have reported that no complaint has been received by them from any of the State Government/ Urban Local Bodies (ULB) regarding large scale corruption and irregularities in distribution of potable water in cities across the country.

(b) and (c) As per report on study titled "Status of Water supply and Sanitation and Solid Waste management in Urban area" conducted by National Institute of Urban Affairs, New Delhi under the sponsorship of Ministry of Urban Development, the unaccounted for water (UFW) mainly in Indian cities is of the order of 40-50%, while acceptable value according to Central Public Health Engineering and Environment Organisation's norms in 15%.

(d) The Ministry of Urban Development have launched a new programme namely, "Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission" (JNNURM) with an aim to encourage reforms and fast track planned development of identified cities. The focus is to be on efficiency in urban infrastructure (water supply) service delivery mechanism, community participation and accountability of ULBs. The JNNURM envisages various mandatory and obligatory reform measures. One of the mandatory reforms to be carried out by the ULBs is "Levy of reasonable user charges by ULB/Parastatals with the objective that full cost of operation and maintenance or recurring cost is collected within next seven years. However, cities/towns in North East and other special category States